



Quote of the Month: "Laughter is to life what shock absorbers are to cars they may not take the pot holes out of the road but they sure make the ride a lot smoother"



Words of Encouragement

"We know what to call the FFA; America at her best. America embodied by the FFA motto: Learning to do, Doing to learn, Earning to live, and Living to serve." I used this quote from our former President, George Bush, in

a prepared public speaking event as a senior in high school and still agree with every word of it. After all this time since the FFA organization has existed, it continues to encourage values that our country claims for itself. I would like to suggest to all of you as members of this great organization that it is you that will continue the quality of this country as you learn and educate yourselves for a prospective career. Use the FFA to every advantage you can. Let it help you become more polished in public speaking. Let it help calm your fears of meeting new people and traveling. Let it open hundreds of opportunities for your future. Already in this short time of serving you as state president I have come to love the members in the Idaho FFA Association. Of those of you I have already met, I have yet to be disappointed. For those of you I haven't had a chance to encounter-I can't wait! I love the FFA and the opportunities it has opened for myself. Thanks to those of you who have invited me to your activities (North Upper Snake River District, Parma Chapter, Boise Valley District, Rimrock, Melba, Mountain View) and so many more already this year. I hope that the invitations will continue to come in for the state officers so that we can help you have a more successful year. To close my message to all of you this month I would like to extend a special thanks to my home chapter-Burley! It was you who gave me wings to fly this high.

Until Next Time, Heidi Lake, State FFA President,

Half a Minute with.....

Tyler Zollinger, State Vice President

Hi, My Name is Tyler Zollinger; I am elated to be serving as the Vice President this year on the 2004-2005 State Officer Team! I was born in Twin Falls, Idaho and shortly after moved to Mackay Idaho where I Have lived ever since. My family lives on

a 1,000-acre ranch 12 miles North of Mackay we have a 300 head cow-calf operation along with a few horses. The area that I have grown up in has strongly influenced the decisions that I have made in my life and also provided me with many opportunities.



I belong to a class of only 11 boys and 2 girls, to which I am sure that some of you in rural Idaho can relate. Belonging to such a small class in a small town has taught me to be a leader with much diversity; I have served on Student Council, Class officer positions, National Honor Society, as well as other positions in the community. I have also learned that most of the time you have to create your own opportunities and can't just rely on the ones that are handed to you.

This year I have the chance to represent Idaho at National Convention as a National Finalist in the Diversified Horticulture Proficiency Award Area. My SAE project includes 2 greenhouse projects, one growing bedding plants and the other growing Hydroponics Tomatoes. I was also fortunate to be the District Star Farmer with my projects. I would have to say that the single most important thing that I have learned from the SAE program is that hard work and perseverance pays off.

I look forward to meeting more of you and seeing some of you that I already know thorough the year! Don't hesitate to send me E-mail on questions or just to fill me in on what is happening with you.

tzollinger@idahoffa.org

Excited for an awesome year,
Tyler J Zollinger, State FFA Vice President

A Senators Story

I am Stanley Williams, current Chairman of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee for the State of Idaho. I have been a farmer and rancher all my life and have enjoyed being part of the agricultural community in our area.

A Senator's Story (continued)

As a young man in high school, I participated actively in FFA it was a great training ground for my future vocation and it taught me many valuable lessons. One program that I found especially beneficial was learning parliamentary procedure. Throughout my life I have used these skills in many different settings. I feel comfortable sharing my opinions in group meetings; I have the confidence to make motions and direct the course on conversations – all because of the training I received in FFA. It has also proven very beneficial as we debate and discuss bills in the Senate. One other skill taught by the FFA that I wish I had developed more fully is public speaking, since I currently have that opportunity on a regular basis.

I would encourage your participation in all FFA activities because they will most likely prepare you for the future roles and positions that you cannot now envision. In high school I had always planned on just “being a farmer” and yet my life has taken many unexpected turns and presented me with a variety of opportunities and experiences that have required me to use the skill I gained in FFA.

FFA is a great organization that prepares young people for the future. Never forget that knowledge is power. Gain as much knowledge as possible during your early years in preparation for whatever life holds in store for you.

J. Stanley Williams, Pingree
Senator District 31,

Idaho's National Officer Candidate

A National FFA Officer has many responsibilities. Three of these are: 1) traveling 300 days a year to deliver countless workshops and speeches, 2) meeting with business and political leaders to further Agricultural Education, 3) and, most importantly, working with members to help them realize their potential to go anywhere and do anything.



This year there are 43 candidates that are excited about the possible chance to serve this organization as a National FFA Officer. The candidates are given all of the necessary resources to prepare for the selection process of a lifetime—which has been described as the “most stressful week” by some former national officers. Throughout this process, the candidates: take a hundred-question test, complete a written assignment, and participate in six rounds of interviews. The candidates will be evaluated on their personality and knowledge of agriculture and agricultural education. The selection is then presented by the Nominating Committee made up of nine state officers from all across the nation during the last session of National Convention.

I have been working hard for the last four months preparing for this process. However, I could not be as prepared if not for the help of Dr. Lori Moore, Agriculture Education Department Assistant Professor; Clint Stevenson, Past State President and NO candidate; and so many members of the University of Idaho faculty for the mock interviews. I also extend a big thanks to all of the chapters that have helped me improve my presentation skills.

In less than six weeks I will be at National Convention to represent the state of Idaho. I am thrilled and humbled by this opportunity and the great faith everyone has expressed in me. Whatever happens, I will be proud of my performance.

I consider it an honor to represent all of you. Good luck with everything! And see you at Convention!

-Trent Van Lueven Past State Reporter



Hope To see all of you at Nationals!! October 27th-30th